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Note by the Secretary-General

Addendum

Contents

		Page
1.	Academy of Labour and Social Relations	2
2.	Association of European Parliamentarians for Africa	3
3.	Association of Presbyterian Women of Aotearoa (New Zealand)	5
4.	Bridges International	6
5.	Caribbean Association for Feminist Research and Action	8
6.	Catholic Organization for Relief and Development Aid	9
7.	Commonwealth Association of Surveying and Land Economy	10
8.	European Union of Jewish Students	12
9.	Federation of Women Lawyers in Kenya	13
10.	Gram Bharati Samiti	15
11.	Green Asia Network	16
12.	Humanity First	18
13.	Integrated Development in Focus	20
14.	International Association of Ports and Harbors	21
15.	The Grail	22

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1. Academy of Labour and Social Relations

Special, 2010

Introduction

The Academy of Labour and Social Relations is a multidisciplinary higher educational and research institution under the Federation of Independent Trade Unions of Russia, established in 1919. It serves as a basic academic and research centre for labour and social studies and contributes to the work of trade unions.

Aims and purposes of the organization

The Academy's aims and purposes are to provide excellent education for undergraduate and graduate students, conduct research activities in the field of labour and social relations, organize and implement various activities to promote academic mobility and support legislative bodies with papers related to labour and social issues. The Academy cooperates with international organizations, universities and colleges and coordinates the work of its 17 regional branches throughout the Russian Federation.

Significant changes in the organization

The legal status of the Academy was supplemented with "higher professional education".

Contribution of the organization to the work of the United Nations

During the reporting period, the Academy supported the work of the International Labour Organization (ILO) by collaborating with its research and academic bodies. It drafted papers for the delegations of the Russian Federation and trade unions that participated in global and regional forums dedicated to issues of decent labour as a fundamental civil right.

- With the support of the ILO office in Moscow, the Academy set up a special ILO study lounge at its central Moscow campus equipped with research resources containing ILO documents, periodicals, brochures, monographs and leaflets.
- The Academy actively participated in working out draft documents and acts for approval by the federal legislative assembly profile committees for labour and education in the spirit of ILO conventions and recommendations.

Participation in meetings of the United Nations

No participation was specified.

Cooperation with United Nations bodies

No cooperation was specified.

Initiatives taken by the organization in support of the Millennium Development Goals

The organization's activities did not focus on specific initiatives in support of the Millennium Development Goals, but rather on supporting the overall development agenda through decent work campaigns on labour days in May and October.

Additional information

The reporting period was not favourable to the Academy's work owing to economic and financial constraints caused by permanent educational system reforms, under-financed, non-state educational institutions and a shrinking budget for international activities. In addition, the demographic situation has led to shrinking student enrolment rates. Although the Academy is committed to more active participation in the above strategy, it is relying on better financial resources in the near future to provide the opportunities for its academic staff to participate in United Nations-related events and activities.

2. Association of European Parliamentarians for Africa

Special, 2006

Introduction

The Association of European Parliamentarians with Africa works in partnership with African parliaments to strengthen democracy in Africa, keep Africa high on the political agenda in Europe and facilitate African-European parliamentary dialogue. The Association currently works in every subregion of the continent, except North Africa, with 30 parliaments in Africa through jointly agreed capacity-building and thematic programmes.

Aims and purposes of the organization

The overall objective of the Association is to support the realization of human rights, democracy and development in Africa. Specifically, the Association aims to achieve that objective by promoting parliamentary competency and authority, supporting the advancement of parliamentary diplomacy, fostering the interaction between civil society and parliaments and influencing the salience of topics on the parliamentary agenda.

Significant changes in the organization

There have been no significant changes.

Contribution of the organization to the work of the United Nations

Since 2009, the Association's parliamentary action has contributed to the work of the United Nations, namely to the objectives of the Joint Programme on Female Genital Mutilation/Cutting: Accelerating Change of the United Nations Population Fund (UNFPA) and the United Nations Children's Fund (UNICEF). The Association has focused on both female genital mutilation/cutting legislation and the monitoring of its implementation, and on education and sensitization from a community-based

approach for the abandonment of the practice in one generation in targeted West African countries. Also since 2010, the Association has contributed to the objectives of the United Nations Development Programme (UNDP) in Somalia, particularly in advancing people-centered governance as a precondition for peace. In that framework, the Association has contributed to the development of Somali legislative institutions through general and specialized training, technical consultancies, study visits and attachments, legislative support, community outreach and the production of parliamentary handbooks.

Participation in meetings of the United Nations

- Representatives of the Association attended the International Conference on Female Genital Mutilation/Cutting, organized by UNICEF and UNFPA in Rome in October 2013.
- In collaboration with the United Nations Office in Burundi, the Association organized two workshops for parliamentarians from the entire Burundian political spectrum on:
    - "Mechanisms of transitional justice and the functioning of a Truth and Reconciliation Commission", Bujumbura, July 2011;
    - "Elements for a credible road map towards the organization of inclusive, transparent, free and fair elections in 2015", Bujumbura, March 2013.
- In January 2013, the Association organized an expert meeting between the Deputy Special Representative of the Secretary-General for Somalia and the Somali diaspora community in the Netherlands at the Parliament of the Netherlands. The topic of the meeting was the recent developments in Somalia and the role of the diaspora in its future.

Cooperation with United Nations bodies

In 2010, the Association signed a letter of intent with UNFPA and UNICEF whereby the Association's parliamentary action would be incorporated to achieve the objectives of the Joint Programme on Female Genital Mutilation/Cutting: Accelerating Change. The Government of Luxembourg financed a programme through the Joint Programme focusing on the role of parliamentarians to advocate for the elimination of female genital mutilation/cutting in Burkina Faso, Mali and Senegal. In 2010, the Association signed an agreement with UNDP Somalia, which led to the co-financing of activities aimed at actively supporting the promotion of legislative institutions in Somalia.

Initiatives taken by the organization in support of the Millennium Development Goals

The Association's capacity-building programmes contribute indirectly to the Millennium Development Goals. By strengthening the capacity and authority of parliaments, the Association seeks to enable legislative institutions to contribute credibly to the efficient and equal distribution of public goods and hold Governments accountable for the disbursal of development funds and sound development policy implementation in Africa. Specifically through its Millennium Development Goals programme, the Association aims to enable regional African

parliaments to develop and implement legislation relevant to Goals 1, 3 and 7, specifically with respect to budgetary control. It is also in that framework that the Association and the Pan-African Parliament have been cooperating, since 2011, to make agricultural investments work for Africa and articulate a parliamentarians' response to the land rush.

3. Association of Presbyterian Women of Aoteaora (New Zealand)

Special, 1998

Introduction

The Association of Presbyterian Women of Aoteaora (New Zealand) is the women's branch of the Presbyterian Church of Aotearoa. It is open to all women in the church and has over 2,000 members who meet in local groups monthly and at a national conference every three years.

Aims and purposes of the organization

The aims of the organization are to unite Presbyterian women in Aotearoa in prayer, study, friendship and service and to support women locally, nationally and internationally through partnership and empowerment. The emphasis is placed upon the roles and service of women to enable their distinctive gifts and insights to be valued and used within the church and the community.

Significant changes in the organization

There have been no significant changes.

Contribution of the organization to the work of the United Nations

The Association contributed to the following projects, set out below.

- Worked with the National Council of Women of New Zealand, the Asia Pacific Women's Watch, Rural Women New Zealand, the Federation of University Women and other groups locally, nationally and internationally to create an informed programme to work on women's issues in New Zealand based on United Nations agendas and treaties.
- Participated in the review of the compliance by New Zealand with the Convention on the Elimination of All Forms of Discrimination against Women.
- Worked internationally as part of Ecumenical Women, a liaison of organizations of women of faith, submitting written advocacy statements at the sessions of the Commission on the Status of Women and participating in parallel events at the Commission.

Participation in meetings of the United Nations

The Association attended all sessions of the Commission on the Status of Women during 2010 and 2013.

Cooperation with United Nations bodies

The Association is actively engaged in working with the United Nations Entity for Gender Equality and the Empowerment of Women (UN-Women) in Wellington.

Initiatives taken by the organization in support of the Millennium Development Goals

The Association implements special projects in support of the Millennium Development Goals in Aotearoa and in other countries in partnership with women's groups. The Association implemented the following projects, set out below.

- In support of Goal 1, helped to build houses after the Christchurch and Haiti earthquakes with Habitat for Humanity in 2010, providing food, clothing and other support.
- In support of Goal 4, provided support to children and women in the State of Palestine in 2011 through a programme called "Mums and kids — kids friendly in NZ".
- In support of Goal 3, worked on disability needs awareness in New Zealand and Tonga in 2012.
- In support of Goal 5, provided training for child advocates for children caught in violent partnerships (through Women's Refuge), in Sri Lanka in 2013.

4. Bridges International

Special, 2010

Introduction

Bridges International was established in 2006 in Khartoum. The organization takes a faith-based approach to its work, ensuring sustainable development, rehabilitation and the development of regions afflicted by man-made and natural disasters, and rendering humanitarian assistance to internally displaced persons and refugees. The organization operates in Khartoum, Greater Darfur, South Kordofan and the Blue Nile State.

Aims and purposes of the organization

The organization focuses on peaceful co-existence, religious tolerance and dialogue between peoples and cultures; conflict resolution, peacebuilding and reconciliation; human rights; and gender equality, empowerment of family, women and children.

Significant changes in the organization

The organization has expanded its geographical scope to address major challenges and emerging issues in conflict-affected areas in the Sudan, especially Darfur, South Kordofan, and the Blue Nile State.

Contribution of the organization to the work of the United Nations

The organization contributed to the following activities, set out below.

- Participated in conflict resolution, peacebuilding and reconciliation in crisis zones in the Sudan and contributed to the advocacy campaign for the dissemination of peace in the Sudan.
- Organized a series of workshops in collaboration with organizations based in the United States of America to foster the peace process in the Sudan during 2012.
- Participated in monitoring the election in the Sudan in February 2010 in collaboration with National Elections Commission and UNDP.
- Contributed to the preparatory process and monitoring of the South Sudan referendum in January 2011.
- Was part of the national campaign to ban landmines and the mine risk awareness programme in the Sudan.

Participation in meetings of the United Nations

The organization participated in the following events, set out below.

- Human Rights Council, eighteenth session, Geneva, September 2012.
- Human Rights Council, twenty-fourth session, Geneva, September 2013.
- Pre-Executive Committee of the Office of the United Nations High Commissioner for Refugees (UNHCR), Geneva, 2013, to support refugee's issues.
- United Nations Climate Change Conference organized by the United Nations Environment Programme (UNEP), Doha, 2012.
- Youth forum organized by the United Nations in New York, 2011.

Cooperation with United Nations bodies

- The organization participated in monitoring the elections in the Sudan, in collaboration with the National Elections Commission and UNDP in February 2010. It contributed to the preparatory process for the South Sudan referendum in January 2011.
- The organization contributed to training and capacity-building of women and girls in conflict resolution and the culture of peace in conflict-affected states in the Sudan.
- The organization organized visits to camps for internally displaced persons in Darfur in collaboration with the United Nations Mission in the Sudan and the African Union-United Nations Hybrid Operation in Darfur.

Initiatives taken by the organization in support of the Millennium Development Goals

The organization's initiatives contributed indirectly to the achievement of the Millennium Development Goals.

5. Caribbean Association for Feminist Research and Action

Special, 2002

Introduction

The Caribbean Association for Feminist Research and Action is part of the Caribbean women's movement. It has a presence in 17 countries in the region and its membership comprises women who are unemployed, including those with university degrees as well as the less educated, who work in the informal sector and women of indigenous origins.

Aims and purposes of the organization

The Association aims to channel the collective power of women for individual and societal transformation, thereby creating a climate in which social justice is realized. It serves as a facilitator of the regional women's movement, seeking to encourage regional collaboration and solidarity. Its objectives are to promote and support the growth and development of the feminist movement in the region; research, analyse and document the situation of women in the region; network with women's organizations and other organizations that support the Association's mission; influence policy at regional and international levels; and support economic self-sufficiency for women, among others.

Significant changes in the organization

There have been no significant changes.

Contribution of the organization to the work of the United Nations

The Association attended many meetings as observers and also as members of national country delegations, with the aim of lobbying the regional ambassadors and leaders, including at the Commission on the Status of Women. At the fifty-fourth session of the Commission in March 2010, the Association participated in an official panel discussion on the situation in Haiti organized by UN-Women.

Participation in meetings of the United Nations

The Association participated in the following meetings, among others, set out below.

- 2010 NGO Global Forum for Women: Beijing+15.
- Fifty-fourth session of the Commission on the Status of Women, New York, 1-12 March 2010.
- Forty-eighth session of the Commission for Social Development, New York, 3-12 February, 2010.
- Forty-ninth session of the Commission for Social Development, New York, 9-18 February, 2011.
- Fifty-sixth session of the Commission on the Status of Women, New York, 27 February-9 March, 2012.

- Fifth session of the Conference of States Parties to the Convention on the Rights of Persons with Disabilities, New York, 12-14 September, 2012.
- United Nations Conference on Sustainable Development, Rio de Janeiro, Brazil, 20-22 June, 2012.
- Eleventh session of the Permanent Forum on Indigenous Issues, New York, 7-18 May, 2012.
- Forty-fifth session of the Commission on Population and Development New York, 23-27 April, 2012.
- Fifty-seventh session of the Commission on the Status of Women, New York, 4 and 5 March 2013.
- ICPD International Conference on Human Rights, The Hague, Netherlands, 7-10 July 2013.
- Members of the Association in the respective countries are also actively involved in the preparation of shadow reports for the national responses in relation to the implementation of the Convention on the Elimination of All Forms of Discrimination against Women.

Cooperation with United Nations bodies

The Association works with UNFPA, the Joint United Nations Programme on HIV/AIDS and the Economic Commission for Latin America and the Caribbean towards the implementation of projects and activities.

Initiatives taken by the organization in support of the Millennium Development Goals

In support of the Millennium Development Goals, the Association worked with national Governments to call attention to priority areas for action. It facilitated a series of information-sharing activities which provided learning experiences in the various Caribbean countries, as well as cross-country fertilization of effective strategies, concepts and activities which were successful in working towards the Millennium Development Goals.

6. Catholic Organization for Relief and Development Aid

Special, 2006

Introduction

The Catholic Organization for Relief and Development Aid is based in the Netherlands and focuses on international development and collaboration in vulnerable regions and areas of conflict. Our mission is to build flourishing communities in disintegrated societies through programmes in health, disaster risk reduction and entrepreneurship. The organization is active in 30 countries.

Aims and purposes of the organization

The organization aims to promote the inclusion of a gender perspective in its work. Its 11 operational programme units work to raise awareness and communicate the challenges millions of people face in fragile contexts and conflict areas.

Significant changes in the organization

Changes have taken place in the organization's geographical coverage as a result of a strategic analysis of the added value of its presence in a country.

Contribution of the organization to the work of the United Nations

No contribution was specified.

Participation in meetings of the United Nations

The organization participated in the following events, set out below.

- The twelfth anniversary of the adoption of Security Council resolution 1325 (2000) on women, peace and security in 2012, where it organized events on a multi-stakeholder financing mechanism for resolution 1325 (2000) and a panel on women's participation in the peace talks between the Government of Colombia and the Revolutionary Armed Forces of Colombia — the People's Army (FARC-EP), among others.
- The organization hosted a side event at the Human Rights Council in Geneva during the universal periodic review on India regarding violence against women in conflict situations in India, September 2012.

Cooperation with United Nations bodies

The organization and the United Nations Human Settlements Programme (UN-Habitat) signed a memorandum of understanding in May 2012, where the organization is a lead partner of the World Urban Campaign, which is an advocacy and partnership platform for cities in the twenty-first century. Its goal is to place the urban agenda at the highest level in development policies. World Urban Campaign partners are campaigning for an urban strategic development goal.

Initiatives taken by the organization in support of the Millennium Development Goals

The organization's work mainly focuses on Millennium Development Goals 1, 4, 7 and 8.

7. Commonwealth Association of Surveying and Land Economy

Special, 2006

Introduction

The Commonwealth Association of Surveying and Land Economy is a federation of independent professional societies representing surveying and land economy in Commonwealth countries. It currently includes 36 countries,

44 institutional members and 74 individual associate members. It also has correspondents in other countries.

Aims and purposes of the organization

The aim of the Association is to foster the development of the surveying and land economy profession in all Commonwealth countries, promulgate appropriate standards of education and training and encourage dialogue between member associations and national Governments on all matters of national policy on which the profession is competent to offer informed opinions and advice. The Association seeks to achieve those objectives through workshops and seminars, publications, manpower services and direct advice to Governments, universities, other educational bodies and its own member societies.

Significant changes in the organization

There have been no significant changes.

Contribution of the organization to the work of the United Nations

The Association works in partnership with UN-Habitat. Land registrars in African countries now attend expert group meetings as a result of the Association's contribution.

Participation in meetings of the United Nations

- The Association participated in the fifth session of the World Urban Forum in Rio de Janeiro, Brazil, in March 2010.
- The Association, as a founding member of the Habitat Professionals Forum, participated in the sixth session of the World Urban Forum in Naples, Italy, in September 2012.
- It participated in the Habitat Professionals Forum in Paris on 9 March 2012.

Cooperation with United Nations bodies

The Association had a speaking role at the informal interactive hearings of the General Assembly with non-governmental organizations, civil society organizations and the private sector at the United Nations, New York, 14-15 June, 2010.

Initiatives taken by the organization in support of the Millennium Development Goals

The Association's activities support Millennium Development Goals 1, 2, 3, 4, 7 and 8.

8. European Union of Jewish Students

Special, 2006

Introduction

The European Union of Jewish Students is an umbrella organization for 35 national Jewish student unions in Europe and the former Soviet Union, representing over 200,000 Jewish students. The Union works to empower young Jews to participate actively in their community and their society in order to improve their own lives and that of Jews in Europe by representing and advocating their needs and interest.

Aims and purposes of the organization

The Union's purpose is to foster the unity of Jewish students at a European level and to strive to ensure their participation in the fulfilment of the aspirations of the Jewish people, its continuity and the development of its religious, spiritual, cultural and social heritage. Over the past years, the Union has placed a special emphasis on youth rights and participation, combating racism and discrimination, interfaith dialogue, combating online hate speech, promoting minority rights and genocide prevention.

Significant changes in the organization

There have been no significant changes.

Contribution of the organization to the work of the United Nations

The Union conducted annual training seminars on "Ambassadors to the United Nations Human Rights Council" in Geneva in March 2010, March 2011, March 2012 and March 2013. The Union trained a select group of students on the mechanisms of the Human Rights Council and met with United Nations officials and diplomats to discuss topics of concern.

The Union also organized numerous conferences in Europe on racism, discrimination, interfaith dialogue, online hate speech and genocide prevention.

Participation in meetings of the United Nations

Representatives attended the following meetings, set out below.

- The thirteenth session of the Human Rights Council, Geneva, 22-26 March 2010, and contributed an oral statement.
- The fourteenth session of the Human Rights Council, Geneva, 14 June 2010, and contributed an oral statement.
- The fifteenth session of the Human Rights Council, Geneva, 27 September 2010, and contributed an oral statement.
- The sixteenth session of the Human Rights Council, Geneva, 21-25 March 2011, and contributed an oral statement.
- The nineteenth session of the Human Rights Council, Geneva, 12-18 March 2012, and contributed an oral statement.

- On 17 March 2012, the Union organized a parallel side event to the nineteenth session of the Human Rights Council, inviting two young bloggers and human rights activists, Maikel Nabil from Egypt and Kacem El Ghazzali from Morocco. They spoke out against oppressive dictatorships, abuses of human rights and freedom of speech in the Middle East.
- The twenty-second session of the Human Rights Council, Geneva, 18-22 March 2013, and contributed an oral statement.

Cooperation with United Nations bodies

No cooperation was specified.

Initiatives taken by the organization in support of the Millennium Development Goals

In support of Millennium Development Goal 3 and as a member of the Religions for Peace-European Interfaith Youth Network, the Union joined the "Restoring Dignity Campaign" in 2013, a global initiative pursued by Religions for Peace to introduce the issue of violence against women as a fundamental challenge of peacemaking.

9. Federation of Women Lawyers in Kenya

Special, 2002

Introduction

The Federation is a non-profit, women-led, membership and women's rights organization in Kenya that advocates for women's rights.

Aims and purposes of the organization

The vision of the organization is a society that respects and upholds women's rights. The mission of the organization is the promotion of women's individual and collective power to claim their rights in all spheres of life. The Federation has three programmes: access to justice, women and governance and knowledge management. Its main objectives are to promote access to justice through legal aid services to women, to consolidate the gains for women in the Constitution and secure effective implementation of all gender responsive laws, to be the premier organization in research and documentation on women's legal issues to guide public and private sector operations and to strengthen the capacity and visibility of the organization to secure sustainability.

Significant changes in the organization

There have been no significant changes.

Contribution of the organization to the work of the United Nations

The Federation developed a shadow report on the Kenyan Government's seventh country report to the Committee on the Elimination of Discrimination against Women. The Federation is also part of the Government-led team that is

drafting the Kenyan Government's eighth country report to the Committee and is further part of the technical committee called upon to work with the Government to prepare States' reports to the Commission on the Status of Women and the review and appraisal of the implementation of the Beijing Declaration and Platform for Action. It contributed to the Government reports to the universal periodic review and, jointly with other civil society organizations, participated in the universal periodic review processes. Jointly with other civil society organizations, the Federation submitted reports to the Committee on the Rights of the Child and the Committee on the Elimination of Racial Discrimination.

Participation in meetings of the United Nations

The Federation's representatives participated in the fifty-fifth to fifty-eighth sessions of the Commission on the Status of Women held at the United Nations Headquarters, and presented shadow reports at all the sessions. Federation representatives further attended a meeting of the Committee on the Elimination of Discrimination against Women to present a shadow report to the Government's seventh periodic report.

Cooperation with United Nations bodies

The Federation has cooperated with UNFPA and UN-Women in the implementation of its activities on women's rights. UNFPA is the main funding partner to the Federation's work on campaigning for the abandonment of female genital mutilation and ending sexual and gender-based violence. UN-Women has supported the organization's work on women political participation and leadership. The Federation is part of the Secretary-General's campaign "UNiTE to End Violence against Women", which is a United Nations initiative geared towards advocating an end to sexual and gender-based violence. It is part of the UNFPA/UNICEF Joint Programme on Female Genital Mutilation/Cutting: Accelerating Change, which seeks to accelerate the elimination of the practice.

Initiatives taken by the organization in support of the Millennium Development Goals

The Federation's initiatives are geared towards achieving Millennium Development Goal 3 on gender equality and Goal 5 on reducing maternal mortality. The Federation continues to pursue those goals through two main programmes: the Access to Justice Programme, where diverse products are modelled for women to access justice, including clients trained to represent themselves in court; and Public Interest Litigation, to promote new jurisprudence and alternative dispute resolution mechanisms, such as mediation and engagement, with the informal justice systems at the community level, such as councils of elders. In addition, the Federation's Women and Governance Programme promotes women's equal citizenship and transformative justice. The Federation's key achievements include successful delivery of legal aid services to over 20,000 women during the reporting period.

10. Gram Bharati Samiti

Special, 1998

Introduction

Gram Bharati Samiti, a society for rural development, was formed by some senior social activists, Gandhian workers and professionals with an overall mission of "establishing a society based on humanitarian, democratic values and ecologically balanced habitat".

Aims and purposes of the organization

The organization aims to serve the poor rural and tribal people, particularly women, children, the disabled, those affected with leprosy and people living with HIV/AIDS.

Significant changes in the organization

The number of members of the executive committee was reduced from 30 to 11 by making an amendment to the constitution.

Contribution of the organization to the work of the United Nations

The organization provided vocational training to 460 girls in carpet weaving and embroidery.

Participation in meetings of the United Nations

The organization participated in the following meetings, set out below.

- Partners' Forum on Women's and Children's Health organized by the Partnership for Maternal, Newborn and Child Health of the World Health Organization (WHO) in collaboration with the Ministry of Health and Family Affairs of India, in New Delhi on 13 and 15 November, 2010.
- Fourth session of the Conference of the States Parties to the United Nations Convention against Corruption, held in Marrakech, Morocco, 24-28 October 2011.

Cooperation with United Nations bodies

- The organization participated in the meeting organized in Amber, India, on 14 October 2010 with support from the United Nations Development Fund for Women (UNIFEM, now part of UN-Women) on trafficking of women in Rajasthan.
- The organization participated in an online survey on the implementation of the United Nations Collaborative Programme on Reducing Emissions from Deforestation and Forest Degradation in Developing Countries.

Initiatives taken by the organization in support of the Millennium Development Goals

- The organization contributed to Millennium Development Goal 6 by providing 348 truckers with treatment for HIV/AIDS and sexually transmitted diseases, raising awareness regarding HIV/AIDS among 6,000 migrating youth and providing training to 2,000 women leaders of self-help groups to prevent HIV/AIDS in the district Tonk in 2011.
- The organization commemorated World AIDS Day every year on 1 December.
- The organization contributed to Goal 7 by planting 55,000 trees and stabilizing 60 sand dunes in the gap of the Aravalli Hills, and commemorated World Environment Day every year on 5 June for environmental sustainability.
- The organization contributed to Goal 2 by providing 740 adolescent girls and 150 shepherd children with non-formal education.
- The organization contributed to Goal 3 by training 158 women leaders of self-help groups on their rights and combating violence against women and girls in the conference organized on 8 March 2011 on International Women's Day.

11. Green Asia Network

Special, 2010

Introduction

Green Asia Network, an international non-governmental organization, works to mitigate climate change and to ensure the safety and sustainability of the Earth.

Aims and purposes of the organization

The organization brings people together to lead sustainable lives in harmony with nature through sustainable land management activities. It focuses not only on land degradation, but also on empowering local people by training them to manage project sites. The organization works with them to form cooperatives to manage their communities and promote job creation while pursuing a goal of self-reliance through sustainable agriculture.

Significant changes in the organization

The organization established a branch office in Yangon, Myanmar, in 2013 to promote a project for "Community participation in forestry and building eco-villages", where half the population of 2.5 million is affected by environmental degradation such as climate change and desertification.

Contribution of the organization to the work of the United Nations

The organization helps build sustainable regional development models by concentrating on three areas to achieve sustainable development: environment, society and economy. Through forestry and land rehabilitation, the organization promotes self-reliance through a variety of economic opportunities for locals affected by desertification. In working with the organization on environmental projects, the

local people acquire the skills and knowledge necessary to simultaneously manage forestry projects and earn an income from agriculture and agroforestry. During the duration of their employment with Green Asia Network as field staff, local people gain experience that later serves to contribute to income generation and sustain their households and their community. That process ensures the long-term sustainability of the organization's environmental projects and embeds livelihood opportunities at the core. In 2014, the organization won the United Nations Convention to Combat Desertification in Those Countries Experiencing Serious Drought and/or Desertification, Particularly in Africa "Land for Life" award. A jury of international experts unanimously agreed that the organization should receive first place in recognition of its impact and scale on improving the lives of people and restoring the environment.

Participation in meetings of the United Nations

The organization participated in the tenth session of the Conference of the Parties to the United Nations Convention to Combat Desertification, held in Changwon City, Republic of Korea, from 10 to 21 October 2011. At the meeting, the organization hosted the "Youth Green Forum: action for combating desertification" as a side event. It also organized a seminar entitled "Sustainable regional development: a model of sustainable land management" and set up a promotional booth from 10 to 21 October.

Cooperation with United Nations bodies

The organization co-established the "CSO Network to Combat Desertification" with about 60 civil society organizations in the Republic of Korea, on 14 April 2011, to participate in the tenth session of the Conference of the Parties to the United Nations Convention to Combat Desertification and preside over related meetings of civil society organizations, in cooperation with the secretariat of the United Nations Convention to Combat Desertification.

Initiatives taken by the organization in support of the Millennium Development Goals

- In support of Millennium Development Goal 1, the organization recruits local residents in areas affected by land degradation, including eco-refugees from urban areas, and provides participants with a wage and trains them in forestry practices. It creates a sustainable income base for local communities through fruit tree cultivation and agriculture. The profit from the harvest is saved in a collective fund managed by an informal cooperative. Eventually, that money will serve as seed money for investment in establishing a community cooperative.

- In support of Goal 7, the organization planted 500,000 trees on 500 hectares of degraded land in Mongolia, where 78 per cent of the land is suffering from desertification. Based on the Desertification Research Centre of the Institute of Geo-ecology of the Mongolian Academy of Sciences, water content in the soil of the organization's sites increased (by 0.30 to 0.66 per cent) compared to non-project sites. Without the organization's work, the land would continue to dry, with increased evaporation. That has been supported by eyewitness accounts from local villagers who reported the elimination of dust sandstorms at sites where Green Asia Network has worked.

12. Humanity First

Special, 2006

Introduction

Humanity First is an independent charity established in the United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland in 1995 and is now registered in 43 countries.

Aims and purposes of the organization

Humanity First works in disaster situations and in low-income countries. Its purpose is to provide skills transfer and capacity-building to enable the poorest people on the planet to get out of poverty.

Significant changes in the organization

In 2012, Humanity First became a limited company. It retains its charitable status and remains a registered charity in the United Kingdom.

Contribution of the organization to the work of the United Nations

Humanity First liaises with the United Nations to optimize the relief provided following disasters. Examples include the earthquake in Haiti in 2010, where the organization had over 100 clinicians in the field, attended daily meetings of the United Nations and worked jointly with other non-governmental organizations at the direction of the United Nations. After the landslides in Uganda in 2010, it provided medical service at the UNICEF camp in Bulucheke, providing support to 3,000 refugees. The organization contributed to the Open Working Group on Sustainable Development Goals process and to the development of the zero draft of the outcome document of the United Nations Conference on Sustainable Development. It engaged as a civil society observer at the sixty-seventh session of the World Health Assembly, held in Geneva in May 2014. It also contributed to the development of the outcome document, entitled "Our action agenda", of the sixty-fifth annual Department of Public Information/Non-governmental Organization Conference.

Participation in meetings of the United Nations

- The organization contributed to the Economic and Social Council meetings in New York, and maintained regular contact with WHO in Geneva about managing health risks such as bird flu and Ebola.
- It participated at the sixty-seventh session of the World Health Assembly and co-hosted a side event for global surgical, obstetric, trauma and anesthesia stakeholders who support increased access to essential surgical care.
- It attended the twelfth and thirteenth sessions of the Open Working Group on Sustainable Development Goals and engaged with the health cluster, collaborating with the Women's Major Group as well as the Major Group for Children and Youth to contribute to the final Open Working Group proposal for sustainable development goals, which was adopted as a guiding document by the General Assembly.

- It attended the sixty-fifth annual Department of Public Information/ Non-governmental Organization Conference, entitled "2015 and Beyond", and contributed to the conference outcome document "Our action agenda".

Cooperation with United Nations bodies

- The organization was engaged through the Office for the Coordination of Humanitarian Affairs to assist in the aftermath of the earthquake in Haiti in 2010, the flood in Pakistan in 2010 and the drought in East Africa in 2011.
- The organization is engaged in an active dialogue and cooperation with the following United Nations bodies and participates in various activities, including:
    - o Regularly attends meetings and briefings of the Economic and Social Council in New York;
    - o Collaborates on specific projects in the Philippines with UNICEF;
    - o Provides guidance to UNHCR in human conflict situations in the Syrian Arab Republic and the Occupied Palestinian Territory;
    - o Provides guidance on health programmes, clinical best practice and epidemiology to WHO;
    - o Provides guidance to the World Food Programme on food programmes and logistics.

Initiatives taken by the organization in support of the Millennium Development Goals

- In support of Goal 1, the organization established 34 vocational training centres in 15 countries and trained over 38,000 people in information technology, tailoring, hairdressing, and mechanical engineering. It also provided agricultural support to over 100,000 farmers to maximize yields and minimize crop wastage.
- In support of Goal 2, it built and managed 15 schools and supported over 75 schools with books and laboratory resources, offering equal opportunities to boys and girls in Benin, the Gambia, Haiti, Mali and Pakistan.
- In support of Goal 3, it established a global think-tank to focus on women's empowerment.
- In support of Goal 4, it provided clinical training in neonatal and pediatric care to clinicians in the Gambia, Ghana and Uganda.
- In support of Goal 5, it trained midwives and clinicians to improve maternal care in the Gambia, Haiti and Uganda.
- In support of Goal 7, it deployed 1,484 village water installations and sanitation facilities supporting 2.66 million people in 18 countries.

13. Integrated Development in Focus

Special, 2010

Introduction

Integrated Development in Focus is a registered capacity-building non-governmental organization working in close collaboration with State institutions such as the Ghana Health Service, local Government, Government ministries and departments, both local and key stakeholders, district and municipal assemblies, communities, families and individuals to promote complete healthy lifestyles and sustainable life skills for social behaviour change for poverty reduction. The organization works in four regions in Ghana and will expand its activities to two new municipal areas in the central and Volta regions.

Aims and purposes of the organization

The organization's aim is to mobilize resources and stakeholders at all levels to empower poor vulnerable women, youth and children to realize their own development. The organization's vision and purpose is to see women, children and youth become responsible while enjoying the full benefits of life.

Significant changes in the organization

There have been no significant changes.

Contribution of the organization to the work of the United Nations

The organization has worked and continues to work in collaboration with stakeholders (local and international) to support, enhance and achieve desired results towards the work of the United Nations. The organization is working in partnership with IPAS Ghana to achieve Millennium Development Goal 5 to improve maternal and neonatal health by reaching out to poor, deprived and hard to reach communities and women with appropriate and accurate information, as well as options for counselling and safer comprehensive abortion care. The organization is working with the Ghana Health Service, the Ghana Coalition of NGOs in Health and Strengthening Transparency, Accountability and Responsiveness in Ghana to achieve Goal 4 by collecting data for analysis from health delivery facilities for effective policies, and by monitoring the Government's commitment to the achievement of Goal 5. In partnership with the UNDP/Global Environmental Facility Small Grants Programme, the organization is helping to promote gender equity and women's empowerment in support of Goal 3 as well as planting trees for sustainable livelihood in support of Goal 7. The organization is working in partnership with the Ghana Health Service to combat tuberculosis, malaria and HIV/AIDS in 43 beneficiary communities for Goal 6. It worked on the Ghana Behaviour Change Support project, which ended in May 2013, to address maternal and neonatal health, water and sanitation, family planning and malaria in 33 deprived communities.

Participation in meetings of the United Nations

No participation was specified.

Cooperation with United Nations bodies

The organization collaborated with the Small Grants Programme to restore 60 degraded community lands through sustainable land management, biodiversity conservation and sustainable livelihood activities in three deprived and poor communities in Ga West Municipal of the Greater Accra Region, Ghana, from 2009 to 2014.

Initiatives taken by the organization in support of the Millennium Development Goals

- In support of Goal 4, the organization collaborated with the Ghana Coalition of NGOs in Health and the Ghana Health Service to monitor and analyse data from health facilities for improved maternal health.
- In support of Goal 6, the organization observed World Tuberculosis Day celebration in 33 tuberculosis-prone communities and organized forums for further discussions and shared best breakthrough strategies to fight tuberculosis. It observed World AIDS Day and provided 3,700 people with free counselling and testing over the past four years. It observed World Malaria Day and collaborated with the Ghana Health Service to educate more pregnant women and provide 200 households with insecticide-treated nets.
- In support of Goal 7, the organization partnered with the Small Grants Programme and organized World Environment Day in 2012 and planted 300 trees to fight land degradation for sustainable livelihood and food security.

14. International Association of Ports and Harbors

Special, 1966

Introduction

The International Association of Ports and Harbors has 350 members, comprising mostly public port authorities, in 90 countries.

Aims and purposes of the organization

Its principal objective is to develop and foster good relations and cooperation among all ports and harbours of the world by promoting greater efficiency in all ports and harbours through the exchange of information on new techniques and technology relating to port development, organization, administration and management.

Significant changes in the organization

There have been no significant changes.

Contribution of the organization to the work of the United Nations

The Association presented on issues relating to the international port community at the Division for Ocean Affairs and the Law of the Sea of the Office of Legal Affairs of the Secretariat in New York, in July 2010.

Participation in meetings of the United Nations

- The organization's representative gave a presentation on the result of the joint industry survey on climate change and its impact on international transport networks and associated adaptation requirements at the Joint Economic Commission for Europe/United Nations Conference on Trade and Development (UNCTAD) Workshop entitled "Climate change impacts on international transport networks", held in Geneva on 8 September 2010.
- It gave presentations at the UNCTAD Ad Hoc Expert Meeting entitled "Climate change impacts and adaptation: a challenge for global ports" on 29 and 30 September 2011 in Geneva.
- The Association gave a presentation on port performance indicators at the UNCTAD Ad Hoc Expert Meeting on assessing port performance, held in Geneva on 12 December 2012.

Cooperation with United Nations bodies

The Association assisted UNCTAD in carrying out an online survey entitled "Port industry survey: climate variability and change — data availability/information needs, current levels of resilience and adaptation planning" to monitor how the future impact of climate change on ports is being addressed by ports and terminals in the world, especially with reference to data availability/information needs, current levels of resilience and adaptation planning in October 2013.

Initiatives taken by the organization in support of the Millennium Development Goals

No activities were specified.

15. The Grail

Special, 1998

Introduction

The Grail has active teams and centres in 17 countries with members in an additional 16 countries, and is growing in 4 additional countries. There are 890 Grail members.

Aims and purposes of the organization

The organization is a spiritual, cultural and social movement of women grounded in Christian faith and seeking to respond to the challenge of the Gospel in today's world. Called by spiritual values, the organization envisions a world of peace, justice and renewal of the Earth, brought about by women working together as catalysts for change. The organization is a vital international movement of women with members in 33 countries in Europe, Africa, North and South America, Asia, Australia and Melanesia.

Significant changes in the organization

There have been no significant changes.

Contribution of the organization to the work of the United Nations

The organization promotes the United Nations at all meetings of its international council and General Assembly meetings and writes about United Nations activities in the newsletter of the group that meets monthly at the United Nations, and in the international newsletter published twice a year. The organization also speaks at schools in New York and involves girls and is trying to involve boys in various sessions of the United Nations.

Participation in meetings of the United Nations

The organization participated in the following meetings, set out below.

- Fifty-fourth to fifty-seventh sessions of the Commission on the Status of Women, New York, March 2010, March 2011, March 2012 and March 2013.
- Eighteenth and nineteenth sessions of the Commission on Sustainable Development, New York, May 2010 and May 2011, to discuss the zero draft outcome of the United Nations Conference on Sustainable Development.
- Informal interactive hearing of the General Assembly with non-governmental organizations, civil society organizations and the private sector, New York, June 2010.
- Fiftieth session of the Commission for Social Development, New York, February 2012.
- Eleventh session of the Permanent Forum on Indigenous Issues, New York, 7-18 May, 2012.

Cooperation with United Nations bodies

The organization is actively engaged with the Working Group on Girls Committee, which was part of the NGO Committee on UNICEF until recently. It is also part of the NGO Committee on the International Decade for the World's Indigenous People.

Initiatives taken by the organization in support of the Millennium Development Goals

- In support of Millennium Development Goal 1, the organization works in Portugal on the Girl Effect programme, provides courses in microeconomics in Brazil, implements a women's microeconomic project in the Bronx, New York, and works in rural areas on sustainability projects in Mexico.
- In support of Goal 2, it started schools and preschools in the Philippines, Uganda and the United Republic of Tanzania.
- In support of Goals 4 and 5, the organization runs clinics with a focus on child and maternal health in Brazil, Uganda and the United Republic of Tanzania.
- In support of Goal 6, the organization's clinics and community-based health programmes work to combat HIV and AIDS in Brazil, Kenya, South Africa, Uganda and the United Republic of Tanzania.

- In support of Goal 7, it continued its involvement in environmental causes in Brazil after the United Nations Conference on Sustainable Development, which include permaculture projects, reforesting, biogas and ecotourism, among others.

- In support of Goal 8, the organization has microscale programmes to help youth get necessary training for tailoring, ecotourism, computer skills, cooking and nursing.